

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:66

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006

ADULTERATION /UNDER MEASUREMENT OF PETROL/ DIESEL

Ponnuswamy Shri Mohan;Sajjan Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the instances of adulteration and under-measurement of petrol and diesel are on the increase;
- (b) if so, the total number of adulteration/under-measurement cases came to the notice of the Government during the first half of 2006, State-wise;
- (c) the action taken by the Government against the dealers found guilty in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to check such malpractices?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 66 TO BE ANSWERED ON 27TH JULY 2006 REGARDING ADULTERATION/UNDER MEASUREMENT OF PETROL/DIESEL ASKED BY SHRI P.MOHAN AND SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR

(a) to (c) : The possibility of adulteration of petrol/diesel by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to the large price difference between petrol/diesel and various adulterants available in the market which could be used for adulteration. In addition to adulteration, there are also cases of short delivery of petrol/diesel by the retail outlets. The public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) inspect their retail outlet and take action against the dealers found indulging in various irregularities, including those related to adulteration and short delivery, in terms of the provisions under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and Dealership Agreements. The details of inspection carried out by the OMCs and the cases of adulteration and short delivery detected during the last three years are given below: -

Year	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
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No.of Inspections	91844	104488	106310
Suspected cases of adulteration	254	225	229
Short delivery	319	241	542

The State-wise details of the number of adulteration and short delivery cases detected by the OMCs during 01.01.2006 to 30.06.06 are at Annex. During this period, OMCs terminated 15 dealerships and suspended sales in 376 cases.

(d) : The provisions under the MDG have been made stricter with effect from 1.8.2005 and they now provide for termination of dealerships in the case of adulteration being established at the first instance itself. The State Governments have been requested to galvanize their inspection machinery to take action against irregularities under the Control Orders issued by the Government under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. In addition, OMCs have been asked to introduce technological innovations in controlling adulteration. These new initiatives include automation of retail outlets, installation of Global Positioning System (GPS) on tank trucks carrying petroleum products to monitor their movements and introduction of marker in PDS Kerosene to check its diversion for adulteration.

ANNEX TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 66 DATED 27.07.2006

Name of the States/Uts	Number of adulteration/short delivery cases detected during 01.01.2006 to 30.06.2006
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Arunachal Pradesh	1
Bihar	6
Chattisgarh	6
Delhi	11
Gujarat	9
Haryana	36
Himachal Pradesh	4
Jammu and Kashmir	5
Jharkhand	17
Karnataka	6
Kerala	11
Madhya Pradesh	13
Maharashtra	20
Orissa	15
Punjab	48
Rajasthan	33
Tamil Nadu	19
Uttar Pradesh	60
Uttaranchal	10
West Bengal	44
Total	395